

Rebecca Klein
Chairman

Julie Parsley
Commissioner

Paul Hudson
Commissioner

W. Lane Lanford
Executive Director



Public Utility Commission of Texas

September 18, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A306
Washington, D.C. 20554

Irene Flannery
Vice President, High Cost & Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2120 L Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20037

RE: State Certification of Federal High-Cost Support, CC Docket No. 96-45

To the Filing Representatives:

Below is a list of rural and non-rural carriers¹ certified by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Texas PUC) in accordance with 47 C.F.R. 54.313 and 54.314,² which established an annual state certification process for those rural carriers and competitive eligible telecommunications carriers seeking high-cost support from the federal universal service fund. The Texas PUC certifies that all federal high-cost support³ provided to the following rural and non-rural carriers in this state will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with § 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act.

Rural Carriers

1. Alenco Communications, Inc. d/b/a ACI (442090)
2. Big Bend Telephone Company, Inc. (442039)
3. Blossom Telephone Company, Inc. (442038)
4. Border to Border Communications, Inc. (442073)
5. Brazoria Telephone Company (442040)
6. Brazos Telecommunications, Inc. (442041)

¹ This list includes each carrier's study area code assigned by the National Exchange Carriers Association (NECA).

² See Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) *Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in CC Docket No. 96-45, and *Report and Order* in CC Docket No. 00-256 (May 23, 2001).

³ This includes high-cost loop support, local switching support, high-cost model support, hold harmless support, and high-cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges.

7. Brazos Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442041)
8. Cameron Telephone Company, L.L.C. – Texas (440425)
9. Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442046)
10. Central Texas Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442052)
11. CenturyTel of Lake Dallas, Inc. (442101)
12. CenturyTel of Northwest Louisiana, Inc. (270431)
13. CenturyTel of Port Aransas, Inc. (442117)
14. CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc. (442140)
15. Coleman County Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442057)
16. Colorado Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442059)
17. Comanche County Telephone Company, Inc. (442060)
18. Community Telephone Company, Inc. (442061)
19. Cumby Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (ILEC) (442065)
20. Dell Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442066)
21. Eastex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442068)
22. Electra Telephone Company, Inc. (442069)
23. ENMR Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442262)
24. Etex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442070)
25. ETS Telephone Company, Inc. (CLEC) (442091)
26. Five Area Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442071)
27. Fort Bend Telephone Company (442072)
28. Ganado Telephone Company, Inc. (442076)
29. Grande Communications, Inc. (449015)
30. Guadalupe Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442083)
31. Hill Country Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442086)
32. Industry Telephone Company (442093)
33. Kerrville Telephone Company (442097)
34. Lake Livingston Telephone Company (442104)
35. La Ward Telephone Exchange, Inc. (442103)
36. Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (492264)
37. Lipan Telephone Co., Inc. (442105)
38. Livingston Telephone Company (442107)
39. Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442112)
40. Nortex Communications (442116)
41. North Texas Telephone Company, Inc. (442043)
42. Panhandle Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (432016)
43. Peoples Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442130)
44. Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442131)
45. Rivera Telephone Company, Inc. (442134)
46. Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (CLEC) (449006)
47. Santa Rosa Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (ILEC) (442141)
48. South Plains Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442143)
49. Southwest Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (401724)
50. Southwest Texas Telephone Company (442135)
51. Sugar Land Telephone Company (442147)
52. Tatum Telephone Company, Inc. (442150)
53. Taylor Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442151)
54. Texas ALLTEL, Inc. (442153)
55. TXU Communications Telephone Company (442109)
56. Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442159)
57. Valor Telecommunications of Texas, LP (441163)
58. W.T. Services, Inc. (CLEC) (449001)

59. West Plains Telecommunications, Inc. (442071)
60. West Texas Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442166)
61. Western Wireless Corporation (CMRS) (449003)
62. Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442168)
63. XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (442170)
64. XIT Telecommunications & Technology, Inc. (CLEC) (449002)

Non-rural

1. Central Telephone Company of Texas d/b/a Sprint/Centel (442114)
2. Cumby Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (CLEC) (449004)
3. GCEC Technologies, Inc. (CLEC) (449012)
4. nii Communications, Ltd. (CLEC) (449008)
5. Nortex Telecom, L.L.C. (CLEC) (449005)
6. Panhandle Telecommunications, Systems, Inc. (CLEC) (449019)⁴
7. Sage Telecom of Texas, L.P. (CLEC) (449010)
8. United Telephone Company of Texas, Inc. d/b/a Sprint/United (442084)
9. Verizon Southwest TXC (442154)⁵
10. Verizon Southwest TXG (442080)
11. Vycera Communications, Inc. (449021)

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact Tina Donahoo in our Policy Development Division, (512) 936-7257.

Respectfully submitted,

/original signed/

Chairman Rebecca Klein

/original signed/

Commissioner Julie C. Parsley

/original signed/

Commissioner Paul Hudson

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⁴ Panhandle Telecommunications Systems, Inc. (PTSI) filed an affidavit on September 9, 2003, certifying that federal universal service funds (USF) will be used in accordance with § 254(e) of the FTA, pending approval of eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) designation by the Texas PUC. PTSI is scheduled to be designated as an ETC in Docket No. 28316 on September 22, 2003. The certification of PTSI by the Texas PUC for federal USF, in this instant proceeding, is contingent upon PTSI's receipt of ETC designation before the October 1, 2003 deadline. If PTSI does not receive ETC designation before October 1, 2003, the Texas PUC will notify the FCC and USAC of this change, and retract state certification of PTSI for receipt of federal USF. *See Designation of Common Carriers as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETC) to Receive Federal Universal Funds Pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's Fourteenth Report and Order Adopting a State Certification Process*, Docket No. 24481 (Sept. 9, 2003).

⁵ Verizon Southwest TXC (previously d/b/a Contel), and Verizon Southwest TXG (previously d/b/a GTE) still maintain separate tariffs and rates.